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# DISTRIBUTING COMPUTER PROGRAMS TO A CUSTOMER'S MULTIPLE CLIENT COMPUTERS THROUGH A HYPERTEXT MARKUP LANGUAGE DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTED TO AND STORED ON THE CUSTOMER'S NETWORK SERVER COMPUTER

5          ## Abstract

The transmission to and the storage in a customer server computer connected to a network of a plurality of client computers, a Hypertext Markup Language document that includes an embedded program applet for selectively

10   accessing each of the application programs being distributed, and an embedded installation applet for accessing a program for installing the application programs being distributed on said client computers. When a user at one of the client computers wishes to have

15   one of the application programs installed, the user requests the document, preferably a Web page (i.e. an HTML implemented document), to be displayed, the user selects one of the application programs for installation by clicking on the displayed Web page hyperlink.  In

20   response to such a selection, the installation applet is sent to and stored on the client computer that selected said application program.  However, the selected application program is sent to this client computer only after said installation applet is stored in said client

25   computer.

It should be noted that the installation applet, which, in turn, will access the installation program, may have already been sent to the client computer and stored therein at the time that the client computer requested

30   the Web page.  Likewise, the installation applet may have already been stored on the client computer in connection with the installation of a previously selected program. Thus, the installation applet is sent only if an

installation applet has not previously been sent to said client computer.